

One more pause
Full of transparent
Calm -- which you cannot control.

I, the paralytic,
The helpless friend,
Must watch this ancient
Spring
Carry you in descent,
In the vortex of its rage.

Summer spends heat,
Autumn's embers fall --
But no other season
Is at war
With itself, as Spring is.
You will wear its mark.

Demian, when he
Threaded consciousness
So painstakingly,
Uncovered
All that's lost between
Situation and the self.

Vestiges

Essex, Old Lyme,
Saybrook, etc. --
spattered along
the coast, they
never dry up,
only linger:
villages for the
old and retired.
These must be
Connecticut's
furthest reaches,
her saddest eyes.
There are no cliffs;
faces are chalky.
Salt wind corrodes
the skin, burns
through the retina.

Hands fumble with
the lemonade, a
towel. Saliva
flecks appear.
Lace-tipped fingers
wave to others.
Thoughts coruscate,

with less
frequency; all
acts are designed
to meet a living
minimum -- and
this is
known as
relative peace.

Nor does the mind
ripple, rub, or sweat.
The garish sun
batters the old,
granular, on the
shore. Tinctured
blood sighs softly
on its course.
A mentholated
handkerchief is
always near at hand.

Blue of sky or sea,
a sight of green,
postcards unearh
a toothless smile
that echoes into
late afternoon.
Names flap by.

-- Thomas Tessier

Dublin, Ireland

Classics:-----

Dieresis by Bern Porter, ltd. to 100 sgnd. copies -- eye-poems; \$6 fm. author, Box 17, Rockland, Maine 04841 ¶
Computers for the Arts by Dick Higgins, only 90 cts. fm. Abyss, P.O. Box C, Somerville, Mass. 02143 ¶ Ray Puechner authored LSD & Sex & Censorship & Vietnam Cookbook in 1968 for now defunct Harris-Wolfe & Co., Jacksonville, Ill. 62650 ¶ Phil Weidman's Slant Step Book, unpriced fm. The Art Co., 2300 H St., Sacramento, Calif. 95816 (our cover this issue is a homage to "the slant step") ¶ Twenty Characters in Search of an Academic Novel, by Ken Lawless, \$1.25 fm. Zeitgeist, Box 150, East Lansing, Mich. 48823

Obituaries: -----

After 38 volumes, one of the best university quarterlies (always with character and integrity) has been killed & will be missed; the last issue of NMQ is a collector's item fm. Univ. New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M. 87106 and titled: The Contemporary American Imagination.